

Rotary



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Wilton Rotary Drummer
Wilton, Connecticut
www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Andy Mais

Thirteen Wilton Rotarians joined our speaker and two guests — the speaker's father and Wilton's former Town Counsel Ken Bernhard of Westport Sunrise — for a non-salad lunch at Marly's.

Announcements:

- There will be **NO MEETING** on Friday 2/16.
- Celebrate Valentine's Day a day early at our **ROTARY SOCIAL** on Tuesday, 2/13, at 5 p.m. at [Craft 14](#) in the Stop & Shop Plaza. We will order from the menu and split the bill, though I expect Paul B to pick up mine. Unless Bud does. Salads start at \$10 (if you can't imagine eating anything else at Rotary).
- Our elders in Kiwanis have invited us to join them for their 2/21 meeting at which Rep. Jim Himes will speak. See Pres. Christene for details.
- Chris Lavin drew an ace at the 50/50. The jackpot continues to grow.
- The New England Patriots lost Super Bowl LII. I can't say that often enough.

Program: The Syria Fund

Our speaker Lexi Shereshevsky started and runs [The Syria Fund](#), which provides education programs and hands-on humanitarian efforts for Syrian refugees living in Jordan. Westport Sunrise has been instrumental in helping Lexi, as Ken Bernhard (a board member) explained. Lexi studied Arabic in Damascus for two years a few years ago, and when she saw the destruction wreaked by the civil war in Syria, chose to follow the finest American and Rotary tradition and offer a helping hand to those in need. With limited funds and staff, Lexi has worked to help young Syrian refugees build a bridge to their future through education in Jordan, where almost 14% of the population are Syrian refugees, about half registered with the UNHCR. The Syria Fund focuses on working outside the refugee camps, providing informal educational enhancement programs. It also provides emergency aid. All this takes money. Visit the website to donate time or talent. The Syria Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and has earned the GuideStar gold seal for transparency.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 13 at Craft 14